

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 147215
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01
USIA-06 PRS-01 /074 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RSPST:AB
APPROVED BY AF:TSEELYE
-----069671 241022Z /21

R 240026Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 147215

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SO, US

SUBJECT: UK NAVAL VISIT TO BERBERA

1. BRITISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON HAS INFORMED DEPARTMENT THAT
BRITISH ARE PLANNING TO SEND A NAVAL TASK GROUP THROUGH
THE SUEZ CANAL AND THE RED SEA TO THE INDIAN OCEAN IN
OCTOBER. THEY ARE CONTEMPLATING DETACHING A FRIGATE AND
AN AUXILIARY TO MAKE A PORT VISIT TO BERBERA IN SOMALIA
AND REQUESTED OUR VIEWS AS TO THE DESIRABILITY OF THIS
COURSE OF ACTION AND WHETHER IT CONFLICTED WITH ANY US
PLANS FOR NAVAL VISITS TO SOMALIA PORTS.

2. DEPARTMENT HAS INFORMED BRITISH EMBASSY THAT WE HAVE
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CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY OF US NAVAL VISITS TO SOMALI
PORTS BUT HAVE CONCLUDED THAT THE TIME MAY NOT BE RIPE
JUST NOW. CONSEQUENTLY, THERE WOULD BE NO CONFLICT
BETWEEN US AND UK PORT VISITS. FURTHERMORE, DEPARTMENT
FELT THAT A BRITISH PORT VISIT, BEING LESS CONFRONTATIONAL
THAN A US NAVAL VISIT, MIGHT PROVIDE A USEFUL TEST OF THE
DEGREE TO WHICH SOMALIA MIGHT BE PREPARED TO SEEK MORE

BALANCE IN ITS RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS AND THE WEST.
DEPARTMENT ACCORDINGLY WELCOMED BRITISH PLAN. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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